equipped with active warning systems that are interconnected with highway traffic signal systems. However, in recognition of the critical role served by highway traffic signal pre-emption interconnections with respect to the proper functioning of a highway-rail grade crossing active warning system, States, local highway authorities, and railroads are encouraged to install railroad and highway traffic signal recording devices at all new and improved highway-rail grade crossings that have (or will have) active warning systems which are (or will be) interconnected with highway traffic signal systems. Railroad and highway traffic signal recording devices can provide a record of any anomalies associated with the operation of the highway-rail grade crossing active warning system and/or the highway traffic signal system, which may prompt further investigation. Thus, as noted by the NTSB, these recording devices should be capable of recording sufficient parameters to allow railroad and highway personnel to readily determine that the highway traffic signals and railroad-activated warning systems are coordinated and operating properly.

States, local highway authorities, and railroads are also encouraged to maintain and upgrade existing railroad and highway traffic signal recording devices at highway-rail grade crossings that have active warning systems which are interconnected with highway signal systems. With respect to signal recording devices for highway-rail grade crossing active warning systems, older devices can record basic information such as approach time and estimated train speed. However, current signal recording devices for highway-rail grade crossing active warning systems can monitor a variety of system functions and provide reports on the “health” of the warning system, such as the status of the flashing light units, gate position, power supply, the presence of any grounded circuits, etc. Many modern traffic signal systems feature software that includes various event logs that get recorded in the traffic signal controller itself. These event logs are periodically retrieved by the central system software. Among the data retrieved would be any observed conflicts or preempts, as well as logs and diagnostics on the vehicle detector in-pavement “loops”.

Recognizing that data provided by signal recording devices can assist States, local highway authorities, and railroads with the maintenance of interconnected highway-rail grade crossing active warning systems and highway traffic signal systems, FRA recommends that States, local highway authorities, and railroads use the data provided by these recording devices during their comprehensive periodic joint inspections to determine whether further investigation of any recorded operational anomalies may be warranted. It should be noted that railroad and highway traffic signal recording devices may be eligible for funding through FHWA’s Railway-Highway Crossings Program (23 USC 130).

Recommended Action: Based on the foregoing discussion and to promote the safety of highway-rail grade crossings on the Nation’s railroads, FRA recommends the following:

1. Each State and local highway authority and railroad should conduct comprehensive joint inspections of highway traffic signal pre-emption interconnections when the highway-rail grade crossing active warning system is placed in service, whenever any portion of the system which may affect the proper function of the interconnection is modified or disarranged, and at least once every 12 months, during which observation of the actual pre-emption function and its effect on the highway traffic signal system can be made;
2. Each State and local highway authority and railroad should manufacture and install railroad and highway traffic signal recording devices at all new and improved highway-rail grade crossings that have active warning systems which are interconnected with highway traffic signal systems;
3. Each State and local highway authority and railroad should maintain and upgrade existing railroad and highway traffic signal recording devices at highway-rail grade crossings that have active warning systems which are interconnected with highway traffic signal systems; and
4. Each State and local highway authority and railroad should use the data provided by railroad and highway traffic signal recording devices during their comprehensive periodic joint inspections of interconnected highway-rail grade crossing active warning systems and highway traffic signal systems to determine whether further investigation of any recorded operational anomalies may be warranted.

States and local highway authorities and railroads are encouraged to take action consistent with the preceding recommendations to help ensure the safety of highway-rail grade crossings. FRA may modify this Safety Advisory 2010-02, or take other appropriate action necessary, to ensure the highest level of safety on the Nation’s railroads.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 27, 2010.

Jo Strang,
Associated Administrator for Railroad Safety/Chief Safety Officer

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

United States Mint

Senior Executive Service Combined Performance Review Board (PRB)

AGENCY: United States Mint, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 4314(c)(4), this notice announces the appointment of members of the Combined Performance Review Board (PRB) for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP), Financial Management Service (FMS), Bureau of the Public Debt (BPD), United States Mint (USM), Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) and Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FINCEN). The Board reviews the performance appraisals of career senior executives below the level of bureau head and principal deputy in the bureaus, except for executives below the Assistant Commissioner/Executive Director level in the Financial Management Service and Bureau of the Public Debt. The Board makes recommendations regarding proposed performance appraisals, ratings, bonuses, pay adjustments and other appropriate personnel actions.

Composition of Combined PRB: The Board shall consist of at least three voting members. In the case of an appraisal of a career appointee, more than half of the members shall consist of career appointees. The names and titles of the Combined PRB members are as follows:

Primary Members
Wanda Rogers, Deputy Commissioner, BEP.
Anita Shandor, Deputy Commissioner, BPD.
Pamela J. Gardiner, Deputy Director, BEP.
Andrew D. Brunhart, Deputy Director, USM.
Mary C. Ryan, Deputy Administrator, TTB.
Charles M. Steele, Deputy Director, FINCEN.
Alternate Members
John Kopec, Assistant Commissioner, Business Architecture, FMS.
Lori Santamorena, Executive Director, Government Securities Regulations Staff, BPD.
Scott Wilson, Associate Director, Management, BEP.
Marty Greiner, Chief Financial Officer, USM.
John Manfreda, Administrator, TTB.
Diane K. Wade, Associate Director, Management Programs Division, FINCEN.

DATES: Membership is effective on 09/30/2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Andrew D. Brunhart, Deputy Director, United States Mint; 801 9th Street, NW.; Washington, DC 20220; or call 202–354–7200.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 4314(c)(4).

Dated: September 27, 2010.

Andrew D. Brunhart, Deputy Director, United States Mint.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Fiscal Service

Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds: Allied World Reinsurance Company


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is Supplement No. 3 to the Treasury Department Circular 570, 2010 Revision, published July 1, 2010, at 75 FR 38192.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Surety Bond Branch at (202) 874–6850.


Underwriting Limitation b/:
$40,957,000. Surety Licenses c/:
AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY. INCORPORATED IN: New Hampshire.

Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Circular 570 (“Circular”), 2010 Revision, to reflect this addition.

Certificates of Authority expire on June 30th each year, unless revoked prior to that date. The Certificates are subject to subsequent annual renewal as long as the companies remain qualified (see 31 CFR part 223). A list of qualified companies is published annually as of July 1st in the Circular, which outlines details as to the underwriting limitations, areas in which companies are licensed to transact surety business, and other information.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet at http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570.

Questions concerning this Notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F01, Hyattsville, MD 20782.


Laura Carrico, Director, Financial Accounting and Services Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Fiscal Service

Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds: Amendment—Allegheny Casualty Company


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is Supplement No. 2 to the Treasury Department Circular 570, 2010 Revision, published July 1, 2010, at 75 FR 38192.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Surety Bond Branch at (202) 874–6850.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The underwriting limitation for Allegheny Casualty Company (NAIC #13285), which was listed in the Treasury Department Circular 570, published on July 1, 2010, is hereby amended to read $1,743,000.

Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Department Circular 570 (“Circular”), 2010 Revision, to reflect this change.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet at http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570.

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F01, Hyattsville, MD 20782.


Laura Carrico, Director, Financial Accounting and Services Division.